

funding to the District, but also, through the enactment of its budget, allows the city to obligate and spend its own local revenues.

I ask unanimous consent that a table displaying the budget committee scoring of this bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1543, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002, SPENDING COMPARISONS—SENATE-REPORTED BILL
(In millions of dollars)

	General purpose	Mandatory	Total
Senate-reported bill:			
Budget Authority	408	0	408
Outlays	416	0	416
Senate 302(b) allocation: ¹			
Budget Authority	408	0	408
Outlays	416	0	416
House-passed bill:			
Budget Authority	398	0	398
Outlays	408	0	408
President's request:			
Budget Authority	342	0	342
Outlays	362	0	362
SENATE-REPORTED BILL COMPARED TO:			
Senate 302(b) allocation: ¹			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
House-passed bill:			
Budget Authority	10	0	10
Outlays	8	0	8
President's request:			
Budget Authority	66	0	66
Outlays	54	0	54

¹ For enforcement purposes, the budget committee compares the Senate-reported bill to the Senate 302(b) allocation.

Notes.—Details may not add to totals due to rounding. Totals adjusted for consistency with scorekeeping conventions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank the President. I express my appreciation for the good work of the Senator from Louisiana on the issues that she described. I appreciate her commitment to education and to the improvement of education.

THE NOMINATION OF KARON OWEN BOWDRE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, in just a few minutes we will be voting on a Federal judge nominee for the Federal District Court of the Northern District of Alabama, Karon Owen Bowdre. Senator SHELBY and I are pleased that President Bush chose to nominate her. Her nomination moved through the committee and will be up for a vote in just a few minutes.

Karon Bowdre is a first-rate judicial nominee. Karon Bowdre has been a student, a legal practitioner, and a professor of law. She graduated cum laude from the Cumberland School of Law, where she served as associate editor of the Cumberland Law Review. Cumberland may be the largest school in Alabama. It is an excellent law school.

After graduating from law school Mrs. Bowdre served as a law clerk for the Honorable J. Foy Guin, Jr. in the Federal District of Northern Alabama, the court to which she has been nomi-

nated. She is very familiar with the Federal district court, having clerked and practiced there.

Judge Guin, a wonderful Federal judge, has taken senior status. He was number one in his class at the University of Alabama School of Law. His father was an excellent practitioner. I had the honor of practicing in his law firm immediately after his going on the bench in Birmingham. Mrs. Bowdre has a good background. She clerked for the Federal judge in the very district that she will be serving. Prior to becoming a full-time professor, Mrs. Bowdre spent several years as associate and partner, practicing law at the well-respected law firm of Rives & Peterson in Birmingham, our State's largest city. Rives & Peterson is an outstanding firm and her serving as partner in that firm is proof of her legal ability.

During a substantial part of that practice, she litigated a number of cases in the Federal court system. For the last 11 years, Mrs. Bowdre has been teaching students about the rule of law. As a professor and director of the Legal Research and Writing Program at the Cumberland School of Law, she has authored numerous articles on insurance law and legal ethics. She has established a reputation as a professor who insists on quality work from students, and high ideals and high ethics.

In addition, she has been called to testify as a legal expert on insurance issues and has been involved in lecturing at Continuing Legal Education seminars.

Mrs. Bowdre knows how to deal with lawyers, with witnesses, and with parties. These experiences have no doubt prepared her for service on the Federal bench.

Her reputation as a lawyer and as a scholar has earned her broad support in the community. I would like to quote a letter submitted by perhaps one of the most successful plaintiff lawyers in Alabama, Jere Beasley. Even though Mrs. Bowdre, as an insurance defense attorney, was generally arguing the opposite position of Mr. Beasley, he had this to say on her behalf.

I have known Karon for a number of years and believe that she will be an outstanding U.S. District Judge. She will have wide acceptance from lawyers . . . regardless of whether they represent plaintiffs or defendants. While my practice is one that represents plaintiffs only, I am convinced that Karon will be fair and competent to all concerned and that is all that any lawyer should ask of a judge. She is highly qualified and, in my opinion, will do an outstanding job.

Her integrity, experience, and commitment to the rule of law are outstanding.

I commend Chairman LEAHY for placing her on the Senate Judiciary Committee agenda last month and for moving the nomination. I recommend her to my colleagues in the Senate without reservation.

I served for almost 15 years—12 years as U.S. Attorney and 2½ as Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Federal court. Those 15 years of practice full-time in Federal court gave me a basis to appreciate the value of a good Federal judge. When you go to court every day and you are there before a Federal judge who has a lifetime appointment, they can afford to be irritable, if they so choose, and there is nothing you can do about it. This knowledge makes you realize the importance of good Federal judges.

I am confident that Mrs. Bowdre will be the kind of judge that will serve the litigants and lawyers well that appear before her. Day after day and hour after hour she will give her best service to the country, and she will give her honest and best rulings in case after case that comes before her. You can't ask for more than that.

She has integrity, outstanding legal ability, and broad experience. She will be an outstanding Federal judge. I am honored to have submitted her name. I am confident she will be confirmed in a few minutes.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. STABENOW). The Senator from North Dakota.

AVIATION SECURITY

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, I congratulate the Senator from Louisiana and the ranking Senator from Ohio for their work on the District of Columbia Appropriations Act. I am pleased to support it, pleased as a member of the Appropriations Committee to support it.

I intend to support the judge my colleague from Alabama just described. That judge has a commendable record of public service. I am pleased to support the President's nomination.

I rise to comment about something that is not in the appropriations bill. Then I will speak on an amendment I intend to offer. First, on the issue of aviation security, I believe we are or probably have appointed conferees from the Commerce Committee on the issue of writing an aviation security bill in conference between the House and Senate. I will be one of those conferees.

It is a shame we have had to wait this long. We passed a bill dealing with aviation security 100-to-0 in the Senate. It wasn't a great controversy, just judging by the margin of the vote—100-to-0—people here believing that we needed to improve security of the country's airlines.

We need to give people a feeling of security that when they board an airplane their fellow passengers have been properly screened, that we have made certain there is not a risk that we are going to have additional hijackings. The airport security bill was very important. We passed it 100-to-0. The